INFORMATION LETTER

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FDA Commissioner Dunbar To Address May Board Meeting

Dr. Paul B. Dunbar, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, will be chief speaker at the luncheon at the Statler Hotel on Thursday, May 19, which will mark the first session of the Spring meeting of the N.C.A. Board of Directors.

Directors, members of the Administrative Council and secretaries of the State and regional canning associations will come together on this occasion, which will be the first event of a series of features planned in observance of the fact that ground-breaking and construction of the new N.C.A. headquarters at 1133 20th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., are under way.

Dr. Dunbar, Commissioner since May 6, 1944, has played a leading part in developing policies in the administration of food and drug laws for the past 24 years and was among the original group selected for enforcement of the Food and Drug Act of 1906. In that capacity he observed the early activities of N.C.A. and its efforts to cooperate with food and drug officials in effectuating the Act. He is familiar with the subsequent organ-

(Please turn to page 174)

Bookings for Labeling Film Should Be Requested Now

Canners who plan to show the N.C.A.'s motion picture "Better Labels" to their own sales or production organizations or to growers before the start of the canning season are reminded to make their requests immediately or as promptly as possible. The demand for the picture for such showings continues active and all prints of the film are in continuous circulation. To facilitate scheduling, requests should give the date a loan of the picture is wanted and, if possible, an alternate date, and requests should be sent to the N.C.A. promptly. The equipment necessary to show the picture is a 16-mm. motion picture projector equipped for sound reproduction, and a screen.

N.C.A. Again Urges Retention Of Processing Exemptions

Through the appearance of Carroll E. Lindsey and Association Counsel on April 20 before the Pepper subcommittee on wages and hours, the N.C.A. voiced its opposition to S. 653, the Administration's proposal to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act. The witnesses recommended that the wage and hour law should continue to provide the industry 14 unlimited workweeks and 14 additional workweeks limited to 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week without overtime pay requirements.

Mr. Lindsey asserted that provision should be made for the additional hours of daily operation required to process fruits, vegetables and fish, that the exemption from overtime pay should be spelled out in the law and not left to administrative determination, and that administrative orders should be issued only after public hearings so that there may be court review of such regulations.

The Pepper subcommittee was to conclude public hearings yesterday, but has set no date for executive consideration of the two wage-hour bills, S. 248 and S. 653, which are the subject of hearings. In addition to Senator Pepper (Fla.), the subcommittee consists of Senators Douglas (Ill.), Withers (Ky.), Thomas (Utah), Taft (Ohio), Aiken (Vt.), and Donnell (Mo.). The Association's witness before the subcommittee, Mr. Lindsey, is owner and operator of the Lakeland Highlands Canning Co., Highlands City, Fla., and is a former N.C.A. President.

The testimony presented by Mr. Lindsey and Mr. Austern corresponded closely with that presented at hearings before the House Labor Committee (see INFORMATION LETTER of February 12, page 113).

On Other Pages

A brief explanation of certain provisions of the Lucas wage-hour bill, H.R. 4272, is presented on page 172.

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Dr. E. C. Auchter of the Pineapple Research Institute of Hawaii and N.C.A. Secretary Carlos Campbell appeared before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee yesterday in support of funds for Oriental fruit fly control. Story on page 172.

Latest Official Information On Insecticide Residue Policy

Latest information on insecticide residue policy has been made available by the Food and Drug Administration to the Association and is reproduced in this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER on page 173.

This includes a list of "residual limits" for spray residues which was presented recently at a scientific meeting by Dr. A. J. Lehman of the Pharmacological Division of FDA; a letter from Commissioner Paul B. Dunbar which refers to the significance of such limits and states that they are not to be regarded as tolerances; and a form letter which is being used by District Chiefs of the FDA in the assembling of data leading toward a public hearing on insecticide tolerances.

Acreage Intentions Of Processing Vegetables

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported late yesterday on prospective acreage intentions of four vegetable crops for processing—tomatoes, beets, cucumbers, and pimientos in Georgia.

BAE indicates tomato intentions at 401,490 acres, 15 percent below 1948 intentions. Beet intentions of 16,500 acres are up 30 percent. Intended acreage of cucumbers for pickles is down 5 percent and of Georgia pimientos down 57 percent.

Details of these reports will be published next week.

CONGRESS

Robinson-Patman Amendment

Cease and desist orders issued by the Federal Trade Commission to prohibit continued violations of the Robinson-Patman Act would become self-executing and violation would be subject to penalties of $5,000 a day, under the terms of the bill, H. R. 3402, introduced by Representative Yates (Ill.).

Under existing law there are no penalties for violation of an outstanding cease and desist order under the Robinson-Patman Act unless and until the FTC applies to a Circuit Court of Appeals for a decree directing compliance. Ordinarily, this means that the Commission must establish that the order is in fact being violated as the basis for its court application. The effect of the Yates proposal will be that if the respondent does not appeal to the court within a specified period, the Commission order will become final and violation will be the basis for a civil suit for penalties.

The bill has been referred to the House Committee of the Judiciary, which has scheduled no action.

Quantity Discounts

Independent grocers with limited operations would be authorized to negotiate jointly in the purchase of foodstuffs from producers or suppliers so as "to compete with chain retail establishments on an equal basis" with respect to discounts and other advantages gained through quantity purchases, under terms of H. J. Res. 218 introduced by Representative Patman (Tex.).

The resolution would add the following proviso to the Clayton Act:

"No provision of the antitrust laws shall be held or considered to forbid any person who is regularly engaged in selling goods, wares, or merchandise at retail and who is not engaged in selling goods, wares, or merchandise at retail from more than ten retail stores and outlets and whose aggregate sales in the previous calendar year did not exceed $500,000, from negotiating jointly with one or more other such persons in the purchase of such goods, wares, or merchandise from the manufacturer or suppliers thereof for resale at retail."

The resolution was introduced on April 8, and the House Committee on the Judiciary has scheduled no action on the bill.

Congress Asked for Funds To Control Oriental Fruit Fly

Dr. E. C. Auchter, Director of the Pineapple Research Institute of Hawaii, appeared before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee yesterday to request appropriations of $2,000,000 to assist in stamping out the Oriental fruit fly in Hawaii, and N.C.A. Secretary Carlos Campbell testified on the need for eradication of this pest before it is introduced to the mainland.

Dr. Auchter requested that $2,000,000 be appropriated to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1949-50 (or until expended) for the specific purpose of carrying on research on the Oriental fruit fly and of developing methods for its control and eradication. The Agricultural subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations is conducting hearings on H. R. 3997, the Agriculture Department appropriations bill.

Dr. Auchter stated that agencies in Hawaii had asked in February for funds for such research, and that since then it has been found that the insect is attacking fruits, vegetables and flowers with greater intensity than ever before. The economy of Hawaii is "seriously affected as a result of these flies with a resultant ruining of many small enterprises," he declared.

Secretary Campbell testified in support of Dr. Auchter's statement and also pointed out that the Oriental fruit fly is a national problem, because the introduction of the insect to the United States would create economic burdens on producers of all deciduous fruits, such as oranges, grapefruit, apples, peaches, pears and plums. He also introduced statistical material showing the magnitude of the problem in terms of the value of these crops.

Trade Agreement Amendment

An amendment to be proposed by Senator Knowland (Calif.) when the Senate begins consideration of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements extension bill, H. R. 1211, is designed to discourage the imposition by other countries of import restrictions discriminating against the commerce of the United States or withdrawing trade benefits granted to the United States in trade agreements.

In offering his amendment on April 19, Senator Knowland stated that other nations should not "continue to enjoy the trade concessions and benefits granted by the United States in a trade agreement" when the trade concessions granted by them to the United States are nullified by special import restrictions. As examples, he cited the Canadian embargo and Mexico's embargo and increased import duties—both serving to limit food imports.

H. R. 1211 would continue for three years the President's authority to negotiate and enter into reciprocal trade agreements. The date for its consideration by the Senate has not been announced.

Lucas Wage-Hour Bill

The Lucas bill, H. R. 4272, which Representative Lucas (Tex.) intends to propose as a substitute for the Administration's H. R. 3190 when the latter is called up for House consideration, would grant the canning industry substantially the same exemptions from overtime as are contained in the present Fair Labor Standards Act.

The chief difference is in Section 7(b)(3). The Lucas bill would provide a 14-weeks exemption limited to 10 hours a day or 50 hours a week, rather than 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week, as in Section 7(b)(3) of the present law. Section 7(c) of the Lucas bill is identical with the existing statute, providing 14 workweeks of unlimited hours exemption.

The canning of fish and shellfish would be exempt operations from both the wage and hour requirements, under Section 13(a)(4) of the Lucas bill. Section 13(a)(5) would exempt "any employee employed in agriculture," and Section 13(a)(9) would exempt employees within the area of production, which the Lucas bill proposes would be defined by the Secretary of Agriculture rather than the Secretary of Labor.

The Lucas bill would establish a minimum wage of 65 cents an hour, which would be adjusted each year so as to reflect, in ratio, the change in the Consumer Price Index compiled and published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for one year as compared with the previous year. The hourly minimum could not be reduced below 50 cents, however.

In introducing the bill on April 14, Representative Lucas said, in part:

"H. R. 4272 is the result of about a month's diligent work by members of the House Committee on Labor and other members. This bill has been prepared for the purpose of being offered as a substitute when the Lesinski 'cover everything' measure is up for consideration on the floor."

Information from Food and Drug Administration on Insecticide Residues

At the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society held in San Francisco, Dr. A. J. Lehman, Chief of the Division of Pharmacology of the Food and Drug Administration, on March 29, presented an address entitled "Pharmacological Considerations of Insecticides." In the course of this statement he summarized the Administration's present knowledge on the toxicology of various organic insecticides, several of which have come into use only recently. As part of his discussion, Dr. Lehman presented a list of "residual limits" for spray residues as follows:

Rotenone	5 parts per million.
Pyrethrins	10 parts per million.
Tetraethylpyrophosphate	Rapidly decomposed; known decomposition products not considered as a hazard.
Parathion	2 parts per million.
Gamma isomer (BHC)	3-5 parts per million.
DDT	Less than 1 part per million if all of the food consumed is contaminated; 5 parts per million approaches the upper limit in any single item.
Technical benzene hexachloride	Similar to DDT.
Chlordane	Similar to DDT.
Toxaphene	Probably 5 parts per million.
TDE	Probably 5 parts per million.
Methoxychlor	Probably 10 parts per million.
Octacide 264	10 parts per million.
N-prophyl isomer	10 parts per million.
Piperonyl butoxide	10 parts per million.

Since this meeting there has been considerable speculation as to the significance of this listing with respect to enforcement policy of the Food and Drug Administration. Accordingly, the Director of the N.C.A.'s Washington Research Laboratories discussed the problem with the Food and Drug Administration and asked for clarification of the significance of the actual values that were given. In reply, the Food and Drug Administration emphasized that these were not in the nature of tolerances, either official or unofficial, but merely reflected the Administration's present knowledge as to the toxicology of the substances in question. It was further emphasized that the Administration's policy on poisonous ingredients is determined by the provisions of Section 406(a) of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the last sentence of which reads:

"In determining the quantity of such added substance to be tolerated in or on different articles of food the Secretary shall take into account the extent to which the use of such substance is required or cannot be avoided in the production of each such article, and the other ways in which the consumer may be affected by the same or other poisonous or deleterious substances."

Under the date of April 19, the following letter was received by the Laboratory in amplification of the Administration's viewpoint:

Federal Security Agency
Food and Drug Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

April 19, 1949

Dr. E. J. Cameron
National Canners Association
1739 H St., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Cameron:

This refers to your telephoned inquiry regarding the "residual limits" for certain insecticides which were included in the paper recently delivered by Dr. Lehman at the San Francisco meeting of the American Chemical Society.

The data included in Dr. Lehman's paper outlined the results of pharmacological studies which we hope will be helpful in preparing for public hearings to consider the formulation of tolerances under section 406 of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. The figures in that paper, however, are not to be construed as informal tolerances that are guiding in the enforcement of the statute and should not be understood by canners to mean that, for example, up to 5 ppm of DDT is to be permitted in any and all canned foods.

It is our view that canned foods should be essentially free from toxic residues of pesticides. It is recognized that much of the raw fruits and vegetables canners use has been sprayed or dusted with insecticides or fungicides. Ordinarily, washing or other procedures normal to preparing the food for canning, such as husking and trimming sweet corn or peeling fruits, will eliminate all residues from the finished food. In those few cases where some of the residues are unavoidably carried into the finished product, every effort should be made, through choice of raw materials or cleaning or other method, to hold the contamination to a minimum.

The law bans traffic in any food which contains a poisonous or deleterious substance in any quantity which may render the food injurious to health, regardless of whether the substance has been added or is naturally present. It also bans traffic in any food which contains an added poisonous or deleterious substance in any quantity whatever, regardless of potential injury to health, unless the addition of the substance is required in the production of the food or cannot be avoided by good manufacturing practice; for example, it is our view that DDT can be entirely avoided in producing milk and that no trace of it should be recognized in milk or milk products.

The law directs the Administrator to prescribe formal and legal binding tolerances for a poisonous or deleterious substance where it is so required or cannot be so avoided. Until such a tolerance has been prescribed specifying a limit for a required or unavoidable substance, the general requirement of the law applies that the quantity be not such as may render the food injurious to health.

It is significant that the Administrator in determining the quantity of a substance to be tolerated in different articles of food is enjoined by the law to take into account the extent to which the use of the substance is required or cannot be avoided with respect to each individual food.

It is apparent that no single tolerance could be applied to any wide variety of foods. The purpose of the law is that when contamination of any food is unavoidable it be held to a minimum for that particular food so the over-all consumption of poisons from all sources will not jeopardize the consumer's health.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Paul B. Dunbar
Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

As an indication of the factors to be taken into account at the public hearings referred to in the second paragraph of Dr. Dunbar's letter, the Administration has authorized publication in the INFORMATION LETTER of the following form letter which is being used by District Chiefs of the Food and Drug Administration in the assembling of data:

Dear Sir:

The Food and Drug Administration is collecting data looking toward the adoption of legal tolerances for certain forms of spray residue on apples and pears and possibly other fruits and some vegetables. This will necessitate calling a public hearing to present and record all relevant evidence. At present it appears feasible to propose tolerances for the compounds of arsenic, lead, and fluorine and for DDT and parathion, on apples and pears. If sufficient data are available it may be desirable to extend these proposals. We would appreciate your comments on the following points:

Are sprays containing the above-named poisonous substances used on other fruits or on any vegetables to such extent that tolerances should be provided for such uses?

If so, what, in your opinion, are the other fruits and vegetables that should be included?

Do you have any information as to the minimum amounts of any of the above-named materials which remain on apples or pears or other fruits or vegetables normally marketed without washing? Do you have similar information as to amounts normally removed by washing?

Will you probably attend a hearing on this subject?

If so, what dates for a hearing in Washington, D. C., would be most convenient for you?

As you may know, the formal tolerance of 0.05 grain per pound for fluorine on apples and pears was invalidated by the courts and has not been reestablished. The informal tolerances for lead and arsenic on these fruits are 0.05 and 0.025 grain per pound, respectively.

The Food and Drug Administration has advised apple and pear growers that DDT residues should be kept below 7 p.p.m. The wide use of DDT complicates the problem, as the possible ways it may enter the diet are on the increase.

Do you believe growers or shippers have experienced any difficulty in keeping residues on fruit below these limits?

Parathion has been found to be extremely toxic, and if improperly used there is danger of acute poisoning. While no tolerance, formal or informal, has been announced, the Food and Drug Administration has acquired data indicating that when parathion is used as recommended—that is, not later than one month before harvest—residual traces that may remain at harvest time are not likely to be enough to be dangerous.

If you have information on any of the points discussed in this letter, I will appreciate it if you will communicate with me on the subject.

Very truly yours,
Chief of District

In summarizing the foregoing, the following points appear to be of special importance:

1. The figures given by Dr. Lehman in regard to residual limits are not to be construed as tolerances;

2. It is only through the mechanism of public hearings that legal tolerances may be established;

3. In certain products, such as milk, the Administration takes the position that DDT can be entirely avoided and no trace of it should be found;

4. When tolerances are established, no single tolerance can be applied to any wide variety of foods; and

5. In any case a tolerance is only applicable when use of the poisonous substance is unavoidable.

RESEARCH

RMA Group Renamed

The National Advisory Committee established under the Research and Marketing Act will hereafter be known as the Agricultural Research Policy Committee, and its responsibilities, within the scope and intent of the Act, will include advising on over-all agricultural policies on research and related educational and service programs, the Department of Agriculture has announced.

Chairman of the advisory group, which as provided for by law is comprised of 11 members, is the Secretary of Agriculture.

A re-statement of the Policy Committee's functions also was announced, as follows:

"The function of the Agricultural Research Policy Committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture, with special reference to the Research and Marketing Act, in establishing over-all agricultural policies governing research and the educational and service programs through which research findings are carried to the people.

"The goal of this research, educational, and service work is the improvement of our agricultural economy in the interest of the general welfare through programs which include provision for:

"1. The supply of food, fiber, and other agricultural products needed to constantly improve the standard of living of the American people;

"2. Conserving and improving the soil and water and other agricultural resources of the Nation;

"3. Maintaining desirable ratios of soil-building to soil-depleting crops and of livestock numbers to human populations;

"4. Increasing the efficiency of production and marketing of agricultural products;

"5. A fair income and living standard for the American farmer in relation to other groups so that he may continue to feed and clothe the Nation."

FDA Commissioner Dunbar

(Concluded from page 171)

ization of N.C.A. research facilities with which many of his colleagues of the Bureau of Chemistry (the original enforcement agency) of those early days were associated. His first-hand knowledge of the organization and establishment of the present headquarters and laboratory building at 1739 H Street, in 1913, made it particularly apropos that he should deliver the first public address hailing the Association's construction of new and modern research quarters for the continuation of canning industry leadership in food technology.

Immediately following Dr. Dunbar's address, the group will hear the report of the Buildings Committee on the progress and status of the new structure, and then will proceed to the site of the new building for special ceremonies.

The Directors will come together for business sessions again on Friday, May 20, in an all-day program of presentations and discussions of the following subjects:

Review of the USDA Agricultural Program; Annual Convention Plans; Food Standards Hearings; New York City Gross Receipts Tax; N.C.A. Budget and Finances; and report of the Legislative and Scientific Research Committees. Full details of the agenda for the two days of meetings will be presented in a later issue of the INFORMATION LETTER.

FOREIGN TRADE

Export Labeling Regulations

Calling attention to requirements that all goods shipped in international trade be marked to indicate their origin, the U. S. Department of Commerce announces issuance of a 166-page book, *Foreign Marks of Origin Regulations*, describing how to mark merchandise so that it will be acceptable to customs authorities of foreign countries. The book may be purchased for 35 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., or from any Commerce Department field office.

British Imports Up

The value of all imports into Great Britain for 1948 reached an all-time high of 16 percent over 1947 and 125 percent over 1938, but the volume of retained imports averaged only 76 percent of 1947 and 78 percent of 1938, it is reported by the Office of International Trade, U. S. Department of Commerce. The volume of food imports was lowest at 74 percent of 1938.

Australia's Fruit Pack

"The 1948 Australian pack of canned peaches, apricots, and pears amounted to 2,952,152 cases (2 dozen 30-ounce tins), which was the largest production since 1948 when 3,030,928 cases were packed," it is reported in the *Foreign Commerce Weekly* of March 28. "Of the 1948 pack, 1,570,000 cases were allotted to the United Kingdom. The 1949 aggregate pack of canned apricots, peaches, and pears is expected to be about the same as in 1948."

Preserver Exhibition in Italy

An exhibition of preserved and processed foods will be held at Parma, Italy, September 8-19, as an "International Exhibition of Preserves," according to a special notice received by the Association from the Italian Technical Delegation in the Italian Embassy. Included in the display will be vegetable preserves, canned meats, preserved fish, fruit juices, and canning machinery and supplies.

"Participation of American firms in the exhibition will be welcomed," the notice states. The Italian Technical Delegation will furnish additional information.

MEETINGS

Tidewater Canners of Virginia

The date of annual meeting of the Tidewater Canners Association of Virginia, Inc., to be held at The Tides Inn, Irvington, Va., has been changed from May 25 to May 24, Robert A. Harris, Jr., secretary, has announced.

Forthcoming Meetings

April 28—Indiana Canners Association, Spring Meeting, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

May 19-20—NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION, Board of Directors Meeting, Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C.

May 19-20—Ozark Canners Association, Spring Meeting, Muskogee, Okla.

May 24—Tidewater Canners Association of Virginia, Inc., Annual Meeting, The Tides Inn, Irvington, Va.

May 30-31—U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Municipal Auditorium, St. Louis, Mo.

June 5-7—Michigan Canners Association, Spring Meeting, Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, Mich.

June 6-8—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., Midyear Meeting, Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, Va.

July 10-15—Institute of Food Technologists, 1949 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif.

July 13-22—Canners' Technicians School, conducted by Indiana Canners Association, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

July 27-August 5—Canners' Technicians School, conducted by Association of New York State Canners, Inc., Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

October 12-15—National Association of Food Chains, Annual Meeting, Washington, D. C.

October 21-23—Florida Canners Association, 18th Annual Meeting, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Daytona Beach, Fla.

November 14-16—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 41st Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

November 21-22—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 35th Annual Convention, Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg.

December 1-2—Tri-State Packers Association, 45th Annual Meeting, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Directors Meeting Reservations

Requests for room reservations for the Board meeting in May are being received at N.C.A. headquarters daily and are being entered against the block of rooms set aside by the Statler Hotel for Association use. Notices of receipt of reservations are not being issued just yet, however, and this item is to assure those who have sent in their requests that official acknowledgments and assignments will be forthcoming shortly.

March 9-10—Canners League of California, Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cuttings, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif.

March 23-24—Canners League of California, Annual Convention, Biltmore Hotel, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Canners League of California

The 1950 annual meeting of the Canners League of California has been scheduled for March 23-24 at the Biltmore Hotel, Santa Barbara, according to an announcement by M. A. Clevenger, executive vice president. The fruit and vegetable sample cuttings will be held in the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, March 9-10.

Florida Canners Association

The Florida Canners Association will hold its 18th annual meeting at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Daytona Beach, October 21-23, it has been announced by C. C. Rathbun, executive secretary.

STATISTICS

Canned Baby Food Statistics

Details of the canned baby food supply, stock and shipment situation, as reported by the Association's Division of Statistics, are presented in the following table:

Baby Food Supply Stocks and Shipments

	1948	1949
	(thousands of dozens)	
Canner stocks, Jan. 1	49,687	53,782
Pack, Jan. through March	25,285	27,386
Supply	74,972	81,168
Canner stocks, April 1	42,679	50,744
Canner shipments, March	9,174	10,580
Canner shipments, Jan. through March	32,293	30,424

Sweet Corn for Processing

The intentions for planting sweet corn for canning and freezing for 1949 total 496,300 acres, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. These reported intentions are 10 percent less than intentions reported in April, 1948, of 551,200 acres.

The BAE noted that these plans may be modified before plantings are actually made, and should not be considered as estimates of the planted acreage for this season. They should be considered only as a guide in making adjustments in acreage plans before plantings are actually made.

It would be impossible to say to what extent planting of sweet corn will differ above or below the intentions as reported. From 1940 to 1944 processors planted more than the reported intentions indicated. From 1944 through last year the intentions reported were larger than the planted acreage. In 1946 planted acreage was 3.4 percent less than the intended acreage reported. In 1947 processors planted 1.2 percent less than the intended acreage. Acreage planted to sweet corn in 1948 was 8.2 percent or 45,000 acres less than the intended acreage report.

Invitations to Bid

Quartermaster Purchasing Offices—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif. (Western Branch).

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration Building, Washington 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is $10,000 or over.

The Army has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

CANNED SPINACH—8,093 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1059 by April 27.

CRANBERRY SAUCE—26,493 dozen No. 300 cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1080 by April 29.

CANNED PUMPKIN—36,320 dozen No. 2½ cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1052 by May 2.

CANNED APPLESAUCE—1,000 dozen No. 2 cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1084 by May 3.

CANNED LIMA BEANS—4,000 dozen No. 2 cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1082 by May 3.

BEANS WITH PORK (in tomato sauce)—56,762 dozen No. 2½ cans. Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1094 by May 10.

FINAL ASSEMBLY OF RATION—to assemble 4,000,002 C-4 combat rations (666,667 cases). Bids due at Chicago under serial No. QM-11-183-49-1085 by May 25.

The Veterans Administration has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

CANNED BEETS—3,750 dozen No. 10 cans. Bids due under Invitation No. 176-S by April 25.

School Lunch Program Serves 15.9 Percent More Meals

Participation in the National School Lunch Program was 15.9 percent greater in November, 1948, than in the same month of 1947, and indications are that more than a billion meals will be served during the current school year, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Participating in the program in November, 1948, were 6.9 million children in 48,000 schools in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

During the 1947-48 school year, 972 million meals were served, at a cost of $175,000,000. With the expanded program this year, it is estimated by USDA that children will consume food costing more than $200,000,000 in school lunchrooms during 1948-49.

PUBLICITY

BLS Price Index

The March 15 retail price index for canned fruits and vegetables, as reported yesterday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, had dropped to the lowest level since August, 1948.

Consumer Price Index—March 15, 1949

(1935-39=100)

Food Group	*Index*
Fresh meats, poultry and fish	229.6
Dried fruits and vegetables	227.9
Fresh fruits and vegetables	226.6
All fruits and vegetables	214.5
Beverages	208.5
All foods	201.6
Dairy products	190.3
Eggs	180.1
Sugar and sweets	175.5
Cereals and bakery products	170.1
All cost of living items	169.5
Canned fruits and vegetables	158.0
Fats and oils	155.1

Canned Foods Price Publicity

Publicity pointing to the favorable price position of canned foods and based on press releases issued by the Association during 1948 is known to have appeared in 208 newspapers and other periodicals with a registered circulation totaling 9,899,375, and price publicity based solely on 1949 releases now is well over the half-million mark in circulation.

Clippings so far received and identified as originating from N.C.A. price releases of either January 28 or March 25 show that price publicity has appeared in papers having a total known circulation of 634,903. These circulation figures do not include trade papers, to whom the releases also were sent, but represent only consumer publications.

Only one clipping based on 1949 releases has been received in recent weeks from the industry, and all others are from clipping bureaus. A clipping from the Tampa *Tribune* was received from C. C. Rathbun of the Florida Canners Association.

Price publicity based exclusively on 1949 releases is known to have appeared in the following publications since the last report:

Cambridge (Md.) Banner	4,228
Cambridge (Md.) Democrat & News	1,762
Cincinnati Enquirer	235,086
Glendale (Calif.) News-Press	19,316
Harvey (Ill.) Tribune	6,678
Havre de Grace (Md.) Record	2,205
Joplin (Mo.) Globe	31,651
Lawrence (Mich.) Times	600
Medina (N. Y.) Journal-Register	2,710
Owatonna (Mich.) Daily People's Press	(a)
Tampa Tribune	98,987
Total	402,623
1949 circulation previously reported	232,280
Total known 1949 circulation	634,903

(a) Circulation unknown.

Article for QMC Readers

An article by Secretary Carlos Campbell in the March-April issue of *The Quartermaster Review*, official publication of The Quartermaster Association, describes the canning industry's operations and points out the industry's importance in the national economy and particularly in time of national emergency.

The article cites the industry's wartime production record and calls attention to the role of canners in current mobilization planning. The Quartermaster Association is composed of officers of the Regular Army, reserve components, and leaders of industry.

Association Officers

Illinois Canners Association

Officers of the Illinois Canners Association elected at the association's annual meeting recently are:

President—Louis H. Schlecht, Rossville Packing Co., Rossville; vice president—P. A. Washburn, A. Washburn & Sons, Bloomington; secretary-treasurer—W. D. Jones, Streator (re-elected).

NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since February 26, 1949:

W. S. Balcom, % Weyand & Co., 306 Colman Bldg., Seattle 4, Wash.

The Colt & Dixon Packing & Manufacturing Co., Frederick, Md.

Island Packers, Inc., Pago Pago, Tutuila, American Samoa.

Kroll Packing Co., Box 197, Seldovia, Alaska.

Markham Brothers, P. O. Box 125, Princeton, Fla.

Northern Products Corporation, Pier 66, Room 200, Seattle 1, Wash.

Strand Fisheries, Hoquiam, Wash.

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